

REQUEST FOR CALL-IN

This form is to be used when calling in a decision taken by the Cabinet, an Individual Member of the Cabinet or a committee of the Cabinet, or a key decision made by an officer with delegated authority from the Cabinet, or under joint arrangements. The full procedure is set out in paragraph 16, Part 4, Section 5 of the Constitution and page 7 of the Handbook.

ITEM TO BE CALLED IN:	
Request from Dukes and Grand Theatres for Grant Support - 27th May 2014 (Minute 6)	
DATE DECISION TAKEN:	
DECISION TAKEN BY:	Tick
Cabinet	x
Individual Member of Cabinet (please state) Councillor	
Committee of Cabinet (please state)	
Key Decision by Officer with delegated authority (please state)	
Joint Arrangements (please state)	
REASONS FOR CALL-IN: (please indicate your reasons below)	Tick
(a) Proportionality (i.e. the decision is not proportionate to the desired outcome).	x
(b) Lack of, or insufficient consultation and the taking of professional advice from Officers.	x
(c) Lack of, or insufficient respect for human rights.	
(d) Lack of openness.	x
(e) The aims and desired outcomes of the decision are not clearly expressed.	x
(f) Insufficient information about the options that were considered or the reasons for arriving at the decision.	x
(g) Other (please give your reason(s) in full below).	x

REASONS AND (IF APPROPRIATE) PROPOSED ALTERNATIVE COURSE OF ACTION :

The decision makers in Cabinet should be called to account for their decision in this case, as it was not in accordance with the officers' preferred option as set out in the Cabinet agenda papers.

The justification for treating differently the two separate requests for support needs to be clarified if it is to be upheld.

If the decision is upheld, the risks set out in the Cabinet report, as set out below :

- *May raise future expectations*
- *Runs contra to aims for moving towards a commissioning approach*
- *Could lead to other similar applications for grant aid or perceived unfairness*

will remain and be valid. The decision of Cabinet does not advise how the Council will deal with these risks.

The original recommendation was altered in an email. It appears to us that a third decision was formulated with other Councillors excluded with no documented evidence to support the decision.

The Cabinet report stated that British Land may contribute half of the funding – why in that case did Cabinet agree to the full £12,000.

This decision is an inappropriate use of public funds.

The decision does not contain any evidence of officer advice sought after the Dukes and Grand participation in the public speaking part of the Cabinet meeting. There is therefore a lack of transparency in the making of this decision. There is also **not** a presumption in favour of openness as set out in Article 13 - decision making.

The aims and desired outcomes are not clearly expressed in this decision. It does not provide a reason why one organisation has been provided with funding and one has been offered an alternative form of funding which is not in accordance with the principles of decision making. An explanation of the reasons for arriving at this decision is not offered.

The second part of the decision invites the Grand Theatre to apply for a grant through the Arts Commissioning Framework. This framework is not in place.

SIGNED:

Members of Overview & Scrutiny Committee

Cllr Dennison

Cllr Mace

Three Further Councillors

Cllr Sowden

Cllr Joan Jackson

Cllr Caroline Jackson

(Note: A valid request for call in must be signed by a total of 5 Members of the Council, including 2 or more Members of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee, and all 5 Councillors must not be from the same political group.)

DATE: 5th June 2014

This request for call in must be submitted to the Chief Executive (by post, fax or e-mail) within 5 working days of the date of publication of the decision.